SUBJECT No. 96.

Appointments of *totis* and *talaris* in villages where they do not exist.

Mr. S. Sitaramiah, Shimoga taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The want of *totis* and *talaris* in several villages has been a source of much inconvenience for the proper discharge of the duties of village officials. As these servants are very useful not only for the discharge of Government work but also to the village community, steps may be taken to appoint them in villages for which *totis* and *talaris* have not yet been appointed.

Mr. C. Sreenivasa Rao.—In the malnad, the *toti* is given one bundle of grass and some paddy. He is allowed to take the carcasses of animals, the skins of which yield him a good profit. A similar practice may be introduced in other places. If they are allowed to take the carcasses of all animals, they will be satisfied with a small amount of grain. No uniform system should be introduced but local usages must be followed.

Mr. V. Raghavachar.—In the Ananthapur District, a cess is levied for payment of *totis* and *talaris*. A similar cess may be introduced here.

Mr. M. K. Krishnamurthi.—Formerly patels and shanbhogs also received *aya* and when that was abolished no cess was imposed. Government pays the entire potgi. The raiyats do not derive any benefit from the services of these village servants. They are doing entirely Government work and should be paid by Government.

Mr. Hema Hanumanthaiya.—I have much experience both as a revenue officer and landlord. The services of these *totis* and *talaris* are absolutely necessary. It is they who have to carry unclaimed corpses. They have to assemble villagers to meet any common danger. No *toti* is able to get his *miras* properly. He is afraid to claim it from any of the influential raiyats. No suits are filed for the recovery of *miras*. The best policy seems to be for Government to pay them, levying a cess for the purpose. This cess may be fixed at one anna per each rupee of assessment on dry land, six pies per each rupee of wet assessment and three pies per each rupee of garden assessment.

Reply of Government.—The subject is under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 97.

Reduction of assessment in malnad.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur taluk

Summary of discussion.—In the malnad and semi-malnad parts, the assessment is very high. The raiyats in these parts pray that this point may be considered in the ensuing re-survey. Through a mistake, the Survey Department without making sufficient allowances for difficulties of labour and cultivation has put the soils in the malnad into a very high class during original Settlement and raised the assessment. The assessment is too

heavy and it should therefore be reduced, the soils being reclassified in accordance with their real state. This has been specially the case in the Koppa taluk.

This was considered along with subject No. 98.

SUBJECT No. 98.

Re-survey of Koppa taluk.

Mr. Chennakesava Rao, Koppa taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The re-survey of the Koppa taluk has been completed and only the Settlement is awaited. From the results of the Re-survey and Settlement carried on till now, it is found that an increase of assessment of 33 per cent in maidan and 13 per cent in malnad has been announced. Koppa is a *pukka* malnad taluk. The export and import trade is very low. Labour is very dear. Considering the above and other reasons, such as, density of population, the number of agriculturists, etc., we pray that during the Settlement, a decrease of 25 per cent may kindly be granted.

Reply of Government.—When the proposals for the revision of Settlement in the Koppa taluk are received by Government, Mr. Sreenivas Rao will, as a special case, be given an opportunity of expressing his views thereon.

SUBJECT No. 99.

(*a*) Control of channels and distribution of water. Annual repairs to channels.

(*a*) Messrs. Doddapayanna, and Alasingarachar, Hassan taluk.
(*b*) Messrs. B. Ramanna, and Venkatasubbiah, Krishnarajpete taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The existing system of dual control over irrigation channels by the Revenue and Public Works Departments makes it difficult for the raiyats to remove silt from these channels. The main channels have to be maintained by Government and the branch channels by the raiyats. The time at which when the repairs are carried on does not coincide so that the raiyats do not get a supply of water at the proper time. The control of these channels may be vested solely in the Public Works Department and Government may be pleased to levy a cess on every rupee of assessment on lands irrigated by such channels.

(*b*) The present system of dual control over irrigation channels is not working satisfactorily. The Revenue Department may be entrusted with the work of repairing such channels and of supplying the raiyats with water from them.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be considered in connection with the scheme for establishing an Irrigation Department for improving the maintenance of works of irrigation.

SUBJECT No. 100.

Abolition of supari cess.

Mr. Agali Venkataramiah, Sira taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly the tax levied on arecanut was a great source of income to Government. This was abolished and a new tax called *supari* cess imposed instead. Even now the assessment on bagayet lands is heavy and the garden products also are going down owing to scanty rains. It is therefore prayed that the *supari* cess may be abolished.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be done.